



# CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

## **UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN REPAIRS AND RESTORATION ACTIVITIES IN FORT LAUDERDALE**

**December 30, 9:00 p.m.**

Following is an update on sewer main repairs and restoration work on NE 36 Street east of Bayview Drive in Coral Ridge Country Club Estates, NE 5 Street in Victoria Park, SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park in Rio Vista, the Hector Park area along Ponce de Leon Drive in Rio Vista, and the Himmarshee Canal in Beverly Heights.

### **NE 36 Street East of Bayview Drive in Coral Ridge Country Club Estates**

- Crews are responding to a 12-inch sewer main break on NE 36 Street east of Bayview Drive in Coral Ridge Country Club Estates.
- Pump stations servicing the line are being shut off so that the damaged area of pipe can be isolated and the flow can be stopped.
- Tanker trucks will service the pump station in the area during the overnight hours and repair work will begin in the morning.

### **NE 5 Street and NE 16 Avenue in Victoria Park**

- Crews are responding to a 16-inch sewer main break on NE 5 Street in the vicinity of NE 16 Avenue in the Victoria Park neighborhood.
- This is the same 16-inch pipe that broke on Friday, December 27. The current break appears to be located in a section to the east of the earlier break.
- Pump stations servicing the line have been shut off. The flow out of the pipe has stopped and discharge is no longer entering the street.
- Vacuum and tanker trucks will remove water from the street. Once the water is removed, crews will begin digging around the break area to expose the pipe and assess the extent of the damage.

### **Operations in Virginia Young Park**

- Backfilling work has been completed around the new section of 54-inch pipe that was installed on SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park.
- Work continues on demobilization of equipment and site restoration activities.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted remediation activities including cleaning and pressure washing streets, sidewalks, and driveways in the affected area.
- Stormwater staff conducted maintenance activities on catch basins, tidal valves, and storm drains in the affected area.
- Virginia Young Park remains closed while repair activities are taking place.
- Neighbors are reminded that the area in and around Virginia Young Park is an active construction zone and access is restricted to appropriate operational and management personnel.

### **Operations in the Himmarshee Canal**

- The valve device around the submerged 48-inch pipe in the Himmarshee Canal was checked today and continues to function properly.

- Aerators continued to operate in the Himmarshee Canal to help improve water quality.
- The Himmarshee Canal from S. Federal Highway to the New River remains under a precautionary advisory for recreational water-related activities. Swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, canoeing, or engaging in any water-related activities within the precautionary advisory area should be avoided.
- To view a map of the precautionary advisory area, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

### **Cleanup and Remediation of Ponce de Leon Drive/Hector Park Area**

- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted cleanup, pressure washing, and deodorizing activities where needed on Ponce de Leon Drive, SE 11 Street, and in areas around Hector Park.
- Stormwater staff checked catch basins, tidal valves, and drainage operations in the affected area.
- Hector Park remains closed to the public while restoration and remediation work continues.

### **Environmental Activities**

- Air quality testing was conducted by GHD, an environmental services company, on December 23, 2019 at 78 locations in the affected area of the Rio Vista neighborhood. Measurements were taken for airborne concentrations of hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S), carbon monoxide (CO), oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). None of the 78 tests detected any concentrations above acceptable levels.
- Water sampling continues to be conducted daily at 16 points in the Tarpon River and New River. Water samples taken on December 29, showed 13 of the 16 samples with passing results. The three sampling points that did not pass are located at (1) 1111 Ponce de Leon Drive; (2) NW 18 Avenue and 2 Street; and (3) 1124 S. Rio Vista Drive. To view a map of the water sampling locations and complete test results, visit <http://bit.ly/2SHNN5V>.
- Water sampling also continues to be conducted at 3 points in the Himmarshee Canal at (1) SE 2 Street and SE 9 Avenue; (2) SE 2 Street and SE 10 Avenue; and (3) SE 2 Street and SE 8 Avenue. Water samples taken on December 29 showed none of the three samples with passing results, however, all three tests showed a significant decline in the levels of bacteria detected. To view a map of the water sampling locations and complete test results, visit <http://bit.ly/2SHNN5V>.
- Aerators continued to be consolidated and repositioned in closer proximity to the sampling locations in the Tarpon River, New River, and Himmarshee Canal that are not producing passing water quality results.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted air lancing activities today in the Tarpon River to help break down the organic material that was discharged into the waterway.
- Boats continued to patrol the canal system in and around Rio Vista and in the Himmarshee Canal conducting skimming and debris removal on the waterways.

### **Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities**

- A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.
- The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Water-related activities including swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, and canoeing should be avoided within these boundaries.
- To view a map of the precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

### **Road Closures in Rio Vista**

- Roads in the immediate vicinity of Virginia Young Park remain closed including portions of SE 10 Street and South Rio Vista Boulevard east of SE 9 Avenue, as well as SE 9 Avenue from south of the intersection at SE 8 Street to Ponce de Leon Drive.

-There is no access east of SE 9 Avenue at the intersections of SE 9 Street, SE 10 Street, South Rio Vista Boulevard, and the north side of Ponce de Leon Drive.

-To view a map of the road closures, please visit <http://bit.ly/34W91Q6>.

### **Safety Tips**

-Neighbors in the affected areas are reminded to avoid contact with any standing water.

-If contact is made, please remember to follow proper hygiene procedures. Wash your hands with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately after contact with wastewater, especially before preparing or eating food.

-Be sure to keep all children and pets away from any area affected by the wastewater spill that has not been remediated.

-Keep a container or spray bottle outside residential entryways with a 90/10 solution (90% water to 10% household bleach) to clean shoes and other items that may have come into contact with wastewater.

-To view a safety tips flyer, please visit <http://bit.ly/2sUvr73>.

### **For More Information**

Neighbors are encouraged to stay up to date by visiting the City's website at [www.fortlauderdale.gov](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov) or following the City on social media at:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/FTLCityNews>

Nextdoor - <https://www.nextdoor.com>

Neighbors may also call the City's 24-hour Neighbor Call Center at 954-828-8000.

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